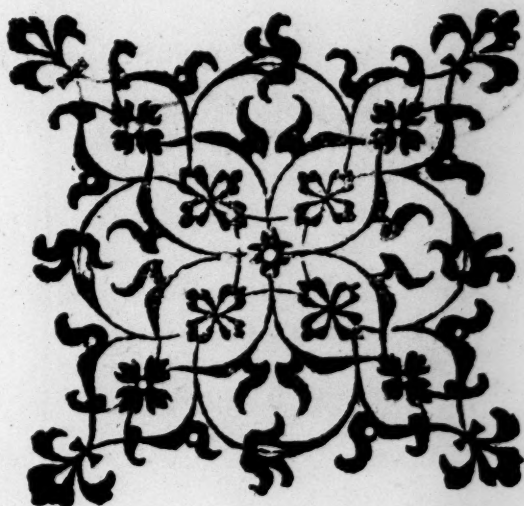


10
THE
Honourable Prentice:

OR,
This Taylor is a man.

*Shewed in the life and death of Sir John
Hawkewood, sometime Prentice of London : interlaced
with the famous History of the noble Fitzwalter, Lord of
Woodham in Essex, and of the poisoning of his faire Daughter :
Also of the merry customes of Dunmow, where any one
may freely haue a Gammon of Bacon, that repents
not mariage in a yeere and a day.*

Whereunto is annexed the most lamentable
murther of *Robert Hall* at the High Altar in,
Westminster Abbey.



Printed at London for Henry Goffon,
and are to be sold in Pannier
alley. 1615. 10





TO MY MOST
louing and respected friend
Master Robert Valens,
health, and all
happines.



*Wh*ich is now, and ever-
more hath been, the in-
constant, and interchan-
geable estate of humane
affaires (good Sir) that
nothing hath bee which
hath not had his in-
crease, his hight, as also
his declining: and albe-
it, it may bee said that
among the rest, martiall discipline was neuer in any
age neglected, or vnregarded: Yet can it not be deny-
ed, but that in former ages the same hath been manna-
ged with much more honourable regard and reward,
then now it is. witnesse the many honoures, which
the Greekes, and Romans allowed to Souldiers, and
men of high desert. And in especiall, the stately and
costly Triumphs which were allowed to their Consuls

The Epistle Dedicatory.

or Generalls, that were Victors; and had conquered, or subdued any Nation or Countrey to their obeyesence. Neyther haue writers left their atchiuements or worthy designs unrecovered, and smothered in obliuion: which benefit many worthy Commanders of our Nation haue wanted. Among which, Iohn Hawke-wood, whose honour and memoriable exploits, acted in Forraine Countries had been forgotten, had not Paulus Iouius, and some few others rather remembered them, then expressed them according to their worth. This moued me some few yeeres since, for my owne recreation, to collect these Histories ensuing: hoping that some one or other, better furnished then my selfe, would haue undertaken to deliuer them to the world in more ample manner, and more plausible termes: which not falling out according to my expectation, but being put to the Presse, I being most assured of your generous and worthy disposition, haue imboldened my selfe in this to make tender of that loue which I beare and owe to your vertues: wishing to you all that happinesse which may equall your godly and vertuous intendments,

Yours in all

W. V.



The Introduction



Tis obserued that the Almighty Creator and Gouvernour of this great & large vniuerse, the world; without diminishing his owne infinite, & vncircumscribed power, or neglect of his protection and gouernement: hath yet appointed the superior seauen planets, by termes to gouerne the world vnder him: each for the space of three hundred fifty and odde yeeres: who according to their seuerall honoures and influences, impart their seuerall natures and properties to mortall men. Which is the cause that some ages are giuen to peace and quiet, some to war, some to studie, and inuention of sciences, some to trauaile, and search strange and vnknowne lands to plant inhabitants, some to propagate religion, &c. But if any age or time hath had *Mars* for gouernor, I doubt not but about the daies of King *Edward* the third, and his Father, and his sonne, this Government must bee. All Christian Princes, yea,

An Introduction.

and the heathen intending nothing but warres, bloodshed, stratagems, and conquests. In these times valor, and magnanimity was esteemed, had in price, and bountifully rewarded. Honour, and promotion attending on such as could, and had means to deserve it. In these times men from meane estates arise to high promotion, and dignities: honour, fame, and renoune attending on such, as could with wisdom and courage follow the warres.



I
THE
Famous History
of Sir John Hawkewood: some-
times PRENTICE of
LONDON.



About the beginning of
the raigne of King Ed-
ward the third, there
lived in the countie of
Essex, in the towne of
Henningham Syble, a
man of honest report &
reputation; named,
Gilbert Hawkewood,
by his trade and pro-
fession, a Tanner, who

among other childre had a son named Iohn, a youth
forward, and apt for any good impression, or matter
which might be imposed on him: Him hee brought
up, in such learning, as might after stand him in
steed, and such as those times afforded, which he di-
ligently applyed, insomuch as in writing, reading,
and casting accounts, and other rudiments of great
scollership he exceeded his equalls. So soone as hee
came to reasonable yeers, and was fit for the Cittie,
his Father brought him to London, and bound him
apprentize to a Taylor, who were not then called
Merchant Taylors, but Taylors, and linnen Ar-
morers.

morers: with this Tayloz he remained, performing
 all such duties as others that were his fellow prenti-
 ses bled to doe vnto, and for their Masters, vntill
 the King hauing imployed many thousands of men
 in his conquest of France, and forced to plant and
 man many Garrisons, in Citties, Castles, & towns,
 which he had wonne and taken, sent yet againe into
 England, for new supplie of Souldiers, pressing ma-
 ny house-holders, & seruants to supplie his Armies,
 and to mannage his intended conquest of France.
 Then was Iohn Hawkhood, albeit yong, thought
 meet and able to serue. Himselfe rather willing to
 be so imployed, then to sit all day on a shoppe boord
 making trasses, sowing stockings, or fashioning, or
 shaping of Garments. His spirit & Genius leading
 him rather to follow Arms after the sound of tram-
 pet and drumme, then be at the hand, at the call of
 his master or mistres. To France he went, as also
 many other prentises of his acquaintance and fami-
 liars, He serued an Archer, with his bowe & shafts,
 in no better place then a common Sentinell, or of
 the still watch, as it then was termed, and in short
 space, (such was his carriage, valour, and courage)
 that he was promoted to be a commander, or Coz-
 porall, after a Serg. ant, then Ancient, after that
 Liuetenaunt, and last of all Captain, and serued with
 his company of two hundred and fifty men, all Ar-
 chers, with such good and happy successe, as that he
 was euermore preferred to the best and most dange-
 rous oppositions of the enemy. The black Prince
 his generall, hauing a watchfull eie of his behavi-
 our, and his valour, louing him, and esteeming him
 more then ordinary, oftentimes called him to coun-
 cell in weighty affaires, and found him to be of an
 excellent sharp, and deep iudgement; and often pre-
 ferred his aduise before others, who were esteemed
 much

The honourable Prentice.

3

much more worthy, and were become famous for their councell: neither was his estimation only for councell, but for execution, he surpassed in speede & forwardnes his fellow Captaines. The particulars of his services are not recorded, but his unknowne, and covered in the names of chief Commanders and Generalls. Let this suffice, that for his valiant exploits and hardines hee was dignified with the honour of Knighthood. Albeit hee was thought the poorest Knight in the Army. He was inpossibility of great preferment, and of great riches, if those wars of France had continued: but the French overwearied, & driven to narrow straights, were right glad to conclude a peace, which was concluded and made in Brittain, at or neere Chartres, in the year of our Lord 1360.

The black Prince with the chiefest of his Souldiers, were after imployed in the warres of Spaine, many returned for England, and others could not by any means be drawn from out of France: and from such places and preferments, as with their swords they had purchased. But Iohn Hawke-wood joining himselfe and his company with such as were called the new men, or late comers, determined, to seek better fortunes, and raise his estate with the spoile of his enemies, and so with a settled resolution to passe through the East parts of France into Italy, to follow the warres there. Hee took his iorney in despite of any powers that could be made to resist him, through Champaigne, Burgundy, and Dauphine, and came into Prouince, even to the very gates of Auignon, where the Pope keepes his Court, & residence of Cardinalls: Great and exceeding rich were the spoiles which hee and his Followers gat, in this iorney: but much more was the honour, fame, and renoune which he purcha-

4 The Honourable Prentice.

sed. Hee neuer attempted, but he conquered, nor
 neuer skirmished, or fought battaile, but evermore
 hee bare away the victorie. Hee was the sole and ge-
 nerall Commander of all which followed him, which
 of their apparrell, which hee newly made for them,
 were called the white band, which consisted of six
 thousand horse, and one thousand and five hundred
 foote, whereof the most part were English, and Ar-
 chers.

Thus entred he into Lumberdy, and was enter-
 tained by the Marques of Mountferratto, a great
 Prince, who made vnto him large payment, and
 royall pay, to the full content of himselfe, his Cap-
 taines, and Souldiers: besides, rich spoiles, which
 they obtained and gat of the Marques enemies. In
 these wars he spent some time, to the great honour
 and fame of our English Nation.

At this time Lionell the Duke of Clarence, third
 sonne to King Edward, arrived in Italy, with an ho-
 nourable company, to marry the Lady Violetta,
 daughter to Vicount Galeasius, Duke of Millan,
 which gaue vnto Sir Iohn Hawkewood occasion to
 take leaue of the Marques, and become a follower
 of the Duke of Clarence to the marriage: where,
 more like a Courtier, then a Souldier (trained by
 as he was) he behaved himselfe with such commen-
 dable and heroyicke carriage, as that hee deserved
 to bee beloued both of the Duke, and of his Father
 in lawe Galeasius: but most of all, Barnabe, brother
 of Galeasius, a warlike Prince, admired his vertues,
 and knowing of his valor and resolution, neuer re-
 fted to intreate the Duke of Clarence, till he had ob-
 tained licence of him that Sir Iohn Hawkewood
 might with his companies serue him in his warres
 against the state of Mantua, which warres hee man-
 aged in behalfe of Barnaby, in such sort, as that he
 in

in sundry fights, and skirmishes overthrow his enemies, making himselfe, and the English men so famous and renowned, that all Italy feared them, and accounted Barnaby happy in his entertainment, who on the other side, admired the discipline, and valiant demeanour of our Nation: and so entirely loved and honoured this Giouanno Acuto, for so the Italians called him, that hee gaue vnto him in marriage his daughter Dominia, which hee had by a Lady of high birth and nobility, named, Porra, and with her 10000 Florences of yearly reuenue. Thus was his glory, honour, and name more spread, and admired, his riches increased, and the more for that Barnaby was esteemed and accounted the most valiant and the worthiest Souldier of his time.

But to the great wonder of all men, when the Duke of Clarence died at Alba, the English men revolted from the friendship of Galeus, and Barnaby, and Sir Iohn Hawkewood with his Army, ioynd with their enemies. By meanes of such alteration and change of affections (grounded vpon what occasions I doe not reade) I finde that many townes and Citties of Lombardy, were spoiled and wasted by his powre: all Italy feared him, and well was that Prince which might giue him entertainment. But being yet out of pay, his order was to take one Cittie or other, and with the spoile thereof pay his Souldiers, and men of warre. But if they would saue themselues from spoile and ruine hee ransomed them, and would sometimes sell them to such as were enemies to the owners of them. At these times hee tooke the Townes of Faenza, and Bagnacuallo: the one hee sold to the Marques of East, for two hundred thousand Crownes. That of Bagnacuallo, he kept and held as his owne a long time; yet at last, Astrogian Manfredy gat it from him by treason. Be-

ing weary of being out of pay & wages, hee was sent
 vnto Pope Gregory the twelueeth, whose Citties in
 Prouince revolted from him, whereupon hee enter-
 tained Sir Iohn Hawkewood, and made him his
 Generall: For whom he recovered all those Citties
 & towne, which refused his obedience. For which
 seruice hee was besides his ordinary pay, well re-
 warded, and by the Popes appointment, made Go-
 vernour of five great towne. In these warres I
 reade that he by mischance was once taken priso-
 ner, but by the great valour and worthines of his
 Captaines and Souldiers, recovered from out the
 handes of his enemies, with whom he was most ho-
 nourably vsed and intreated. Having ended the
 warres for the B. of Rome, and vtterly refusing to
 be idle and out of pay, he was solicited by many free
 Citties, and states of Italy to serue. Amongst whom
 the Citty & State of Florence proffered him most,
 and them he serued, with great commendation and
 honour. From them hee went to the Pysans, with
 whom when he had serued a space, hee was againe
 solicited by the Florentines, who increasing his pay,
 and allowing better meanes to his Souldiers, and
 followers, obtained his good will againe: with whom
 hee serued a long time after, with such successe, and
 increase of his commendation, & glorious renowne,
 that hee was held and esteemed to be the onely, ab-
 solute, and the best Souldier that then liued: For
 hauing an exceeding sharp, ripe, and quick conceipt,
 hee had learned by long experience in the warres.
 hee had learned to force occasions, and politiquely
 to frame his resolutions. He was also speedy in ex-
 ecution, and whensoever occasion required, he was
 as hot in fight, as notable in delaies. So that sun-
 dry great Captaines who after were most highly re-
 nowned, proceeded from his schoole, as from an
 exact

eract Master of martiall discipline. The exploits which he atchieued with good successe, were accounted as sure grounds and principles of warlike discipline, as well amongst his enemies, as amongst his owne followers. Thus waxed he old in the warres, and after an incomparable renowne amongst all men for his vertues and true valour, he departed this mortall life at Florence, and like a soldier was most honourably buried in their Cathedrall Church: and in regard that he had in his life been a notable defender of their Common wealth. The Senate and Citizens in reward thereof, erected a stately Tombe and Monument, with the image of a man on horsebacke, as great as a mighty pillar, for a Monument and testimony of his prowes in warre, and his fidelity to them and their state.

A great part of his riches and wealth was conuer- ted into England, where also his executors, or other- wise his friends at Hunningham Syble where he was bozne, erected for him a tombe or Monument, arched ouer, and engraues the likenes of Hawkes in a wood flying. This was done in the Parish Church by Robert Rokeden Senioꝝ, and Robert Rokeden Junioꝝ, & Iohn Cooc: and to the memory of so worthy a man they builded and founded a Chauntry, which with the rest is dissolved.

Hee was by some called Gyouanno Agutho, by some Acutho: for that the Italians could not well pronounce his name in English. I haue read him called in English Sir Iohn Sharpe, Sir Iohn Acton: and Sir Iohn Hawkewood, which was indeed his name.

The Chronicles of Italy doe make often and hono- rable mention of him, and our Histories doe also re- member him: amongst which I haue thought good to set downe the wordes of Thomas of Walsingham

in Latin as I find them, as also of Paulus Iouius and others.

Thomas Walsingham.

Per idem tempus Papa fouebat Guerram contra dominos mediolanenses quia ipsi tyrannice & iniuste, terras, redditus, & castella de patrimonio beati Petri longo tempore detinebant. Pro papa vero militabat dominus de Spencer qui laudabiliter se gessit ibidem post mortem ducis Clarentie cum quo peruenit ad partes illas.

Eodem tempore Floruit miles ille egregius & famosus Iohannes Hawkewood, Anglicus natione, habens secum albam illam comitiuam pertactam superius qui nunc contra papam, nunc contra dominos, mediolanenses bella gerebat, cuius pars quocunq; ueriebatur semper vincebat. Multa itaq; facta egregia ibidem operatus est cum suis Imo mirabilia, & Inaudita si quis uellet singula eius gesta enarrare.

Paulus Iouius,

Anglorum egressus patrijs Acuthus ab oris

Italiae primum climata letus adit

Militie fuerat, quasq; edoctus & artes

Ausonia exeruit non semel ipse plagas,

Vt donaretur Statua defunctus equestri

Debita nam virtus premia semper habet.

Nicholaus Machiavell.

Quo vero ab externis insidijs munitiores essent Io-
annem

The honourable Prentice.

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*annem Aguthum Anglum belli ducem celeberrimum,
quod antea papa aliisque Italis egregie operam suam
navasset, ad stipendia sera vocarunt.*

Iulius Feroldus.

*Hawkewood Anglorum decus, & decus addite genti
Italica, Italico praesidiumq; solo
Vt tumuli quondam Florentia sic simulacri,
Virtutem Iovius donat Honore tuam.*

His Picture may be seene in the Booke of *Paulus
Iovius de Eulogiis.*



The Preface or Introduction.



T hath ever beene held a most commendable thing to recount the Acts of auncient Nobility : but much more laudable to recover them from the devouring iawes of all-eating time , which commonly doth swallow the best actions, and adventures of elder ages, and retaines onely the memory of such exploits and adventures as the later age ; namely what their Grandfathers haue by hand deliuered , and by tradition left to posterity. The auncient *Brittaines* or the *Welshmen*, had their Barths or Bardi ; as also their Druydes, the last attentive on their religion and sacrifices : the first, wholly busied and respectiue about the recording and repeating , or rather singing the adventures of their Auncestors , deliuering from one to another, as it were an exact Chronicle, of the most notable adventures of their Nobilitie ; and haue not onely amongst them, but the like amongst the Galles and Cimbrians (from whom the best learned suppose the *Brittaines* doe proceed)

ceed) beene had in reuerend estimation and credit: but as concerning the ensuing historie, which I purpose to write; we need no tradition to helpe vs, since there yet remaines large and ample records: both Chronicles and histories printed, and written manuscrypts which beare testimonie of that which is hereafter deliuered: Records in the Towne, and seuerall Stories and Registers belonging to such houses as were by them builded; or such as they haue new founded: And these remaine in the hands and priuat custody of particular men: but what I shall here deliuer, I haue found both in old written histories, in common Chronicles, as also out of Records remaining, as I said in the Towre of *London*: being the aduentures of *Robert Fitzwalter*, who liued in the daies of King *Iohn*, and suffred the variable changes of his fortunes, as by that which followeth shall appeare. Whatsoever error I shall commit, shall not be of purpose, but for want of sufficient instructions, which whosoever can or will take paines to correct and amend, I will hold my selfe exceedingly well pleased, and be content that first I haue aduentured to entreat of them. So read and vse them at your pleasure.



The famous history of *Robert Fitz-walter*.

Of *Robert Fitz-walter* his Auncestors.

That this Family of Fitzwalters, hath of long time beene of honourable reputation and account, need not many proofes: the same not contradicted but by a general consent, known to descend from Gislebert, or Gilbert Lord of Clare and Tonbridge, and also from Waltheof Earle of Northumberland which lived in William the Conquerors time, and Iudith Countesse of Huntington, who was necce to the Conqueror.

It is not amisse to note that our English nation used no Surnames till after the conquest, but tooke names either of the Christian name of their parents or of the place where they were bozne, or of some other accident, as their trade, occupation, or of some quality of body or mind, wherewith they were endowed.

The first of this family of Fitzwalters that descended from the house of Clare, was Robert FitzRichard being indeed one of the younger sonnes of Richard Fitz-Gilbert Lord of Clare. This Robert had a son
C 2 called

called Walter, surnamed after his fathers Christian name : Fitz-Robert and he had a sonne called Robert Fitz-walter being the sonne of Walter, after whom this name of Fitz-walter was settled in this family, whereof I entreat: This Robert lived in the time of King Iohn, and died Anno 1134. 19. H 3 and that Robert who is mentioned in this Booke, was his grandchild, and lived long after in the time of E. Edw. 1.

Walter Fitz-walter, father of this Robert was first married to Matild or Maud de Beecham, and secondly to Mauld de Lucy, mother to Robert of whom I entreat, whose father died An. Dom. 1198. and was buried at Donnrow, where he founded a priory, leaving Robert his sonne to succeed him, called Robert Fitz-walter Lord of Woodham, a Towne in Essex, of which name there are also two other Townes, namely Woodham Ferrers, and Woodham Mortimer as also this Woodham Walters, whereof the Fitzwalter were Lords.

Of his marriage, and of his faire daughter *Mauld* or *Matild*.



Willingly omit his bringing up, which could not be but according to the estate of his nobility, and birth: but his forwardnes and readines to conceiue and learne whatsoeuer was taught him, exceeded the common sort of his equals: but chiefly he excelled in exercise of Armes, wherein he wholly delighted and overwent the rest of his familiars, and such as were brought up with him. When he came to mans estate, he betooke himselfe to marriage, and by his wife, who lived not long with him, who also may seeme not to haue lived with

with him so contentedly as was to be required, hee had one onely daughter whom he loued most entirely, and caused her to be brought vp in vertue and learning, wherein shee prospered to the great contentment and ioy of her father, and comfort of her mother, who notwithstanding shortly after died, and left her sole gouernoz of her fathers house, which was great consisting of many people, seruingmen, and household seruants: all which shee gouerned, and vnder her father ruled, with such discret and modest behaviour, as was of all people wondred at, in respect of her tender age and youth: besides shee was of such excellent and surpassing beauty, as allured the eyes of all sorts of people to gaze and wonder at it, nature hauing wrought in her mind an example of all womanhood, and in her body and countenance, a patterne and moddell of all perfection, which being knowne at the Court, as also throughout the land: shee was commanded to attend the Court amongst Ladies of her regard and equall estimation: being at Court and daily attendant on the Queene. The King himselfe (I meane King Iohn) still respecting and gazing at her exquisite carriage, and the perfection of her bewty, fell so farre from himselfe, and that which became his person and estate, that he bent all his endeavors to sollicite her of loue, which shee as fully resolute most constantly denied. The repalsed King left not so his vnlawfull sute for all her deniall, but practised to procure her father to be a meanes for his vnlawfull and vngodly request: a matter so farre from Kingly dignity, a thing so dishonorable for him to attempt or vndergoe, as that for it, he euer after (how euer for the time he bare faire weather) persecuted and hated the King most deadly: and it seemed to him being a man of high courage and resolution, so prophane and so hainous a request, as was from

his very soule to be abhorred and detested: nature not brooking the father to become a Pandoꝝ to his child: but such was the loue or rather lust of this lasciuious King, that the poore virgine not otherwise able to auoid his importunate sute, besought her father that she might be professed a Nun or votary at Dunmew, whereunto her father consented, trusting that her absence would alay and assuage his lust, and cause him to leaue his unhallowed sute: but it preuailed not, but as a Lyon bereft of his pray grew moze enraged then befoze, appointing a messenger which he procured and hired of purpose, whose errand was either to perswade her to consent to the Kings request, or by poison to take away her life: in the end when nothing could perswade her, he according to his direction poisoned her. I haue read that it was secretly done with a poached egge, the fault being poisoned which was for her sauce: Others say with a cup of poison which he enforced her to drinke: but howsoeuer great mischief befell after this lamentable Tragedy, which wel neere had ouerthrowne the Kingdome and Country. This was about the yeere of our Lord 1213.

Of which matter Mr. Michael Draiton and others haue written at large.

Of the Barrons warre, and the banishment of this Robert Fitz-walter.

Foꝝ this occasion and many other grieuances, the Barrons together with this Robert arose, and made warre against the King, driving him to such extremity, that he was forced to deliuer the City to the Barons, and the Towꝛe of London to the Archbishop of Canterbury on certaine conditions, whereof I haue seene the coppie of a Charter or deed remaining in the Towꝛe of London to this purpose.

The

The agreement betweene King Iohn of the one part, and Robert Fitz-walter, Marshall for the armie of God and the Church of England, Richard Earle of Clare, Geoffrey Earle of Essex, and Glocester Roger Bygot, Earle of Norfolk and Suffolke, Saer Earle of Winchester, Robert Earle of Oxford, Henry Earle of Hereford, and the Barrons underwritten, that is to say William Marshall the younger, Eustace de ves-cie, William de Mowbray, Iohn Fitz-roberts, Roger de Mountbegon, William de Lannauaile, and other Carles and Barrons with those aboue written together, with the freemen of the whole kingdome, that they aforesaid shal hold the Citty of London, of the Kings deliuerance, sauing to the King, in the meane time, all farmes, rents, and his clere debts, vntill the ascention of the Virgin Marie, which shal be in the 17. yere of his raigne; and the Lord of Canterbury shall likewise hold of the Kings deliuerance the towre of London, vnto the foresaid terme, sauing to the Citty of London, their liberties and the customes, and to euery man his right in the custody or keeping of the Towre of London: and if so be that some things named in that Graunt bee performed by the King: or that they be not hindred to be by him performed within the said terme: that then the said Citty shall be deliuered to the King, within the said terme, sauing the liberty and customes of the said Citty: and if they be not performed, but hindered by the King: Then the said Barrons to hold the said Citty, and the Lord Archbishop the Towre vntill they be performed. And in the meane time all men on either side, to receiue the Lands, Castles, and Edifices which they had, the beginning of the warre betweene the King and the Barons, &c.

Whereby appeareth that the people of England had great affiance in the wisdom and valour of this Robert

bert : for they chose him for their chiefe commander, and Generall of their Hoste, by the name of War-
Hall.

The King after this agrément found meanes to banish Robert , and diuers others of the Barons, whereof some fled into Scotland, some into France: Thither also fled Robert Fitz-walter : The king considering what dammage his owne subiects and people might doe vnto him in France: prepared an Army and sailed ouer and met the French king, where each armie being prepared, and articles of peace and truce proposed , they agreed vpon a truce for five yeeres. Whilst both the hosts lay still about this composition. There was an English knight which made offer to fight with any knight of the French host , which challenge Robert Fitz-walter, obtained to answer on behalfe of the French : So he ferried ouer on horse-backe to the English Host, there being a small Riuer betwixt them, and in sight of both kings and armies Robert ouerthrew and unhorsed the English challenger or champion, whereat King Iohn was wroth, and swore by Gods tooth which was his vsuall oath, that he were a king indeed that had such a knight : Some of Roberts friends enformed him and said it is your owne knight Robert Fitz-walter , and humbly besought his pardon, which the king graunted, and so his lands were restozed : and his Castle at London which was defaced and taken from him , called Baimards Castle , was with licence of the king repaired and redified, of which Castle and the custome belonging therunto, I haue read in a very auncient written Booke of the customes of London, that which followeth, which also is remembred by Iohn Stow in his Annales.

The ceremonies and rights which
belong to *Robert Fitzwalter*, Chasteline
of London, and Lord of Woodham; that is, hee
ought to be chiefe Bannerer, or Banner-bearer of Lon-
don, as in fee, which belongeth to his Castle
Bainard, which seruices he ought
to performe in time
of warre.

The said Robert as his Ancestors haue done, and *Vide Jo. Stow*
his heires ought to doe, when there is prepara- in Sutuay of
tion for warre, he ought to come vpon his steed, co- London.
nered, he being the twentieth man of Armes, his ca-
parisons of cloath, or iron, vnto the great doze of the
Spinster, or Cathedraill Church of Saint Paul, with
his Banner displaid, with his Armes in it; and
when he is come to the great doze of the Church,
mounted, and apparrelled as befoze. The Maior
with the Sherettes and Aldermen armed, shall come
foorth to the doze of the said Church or Spinster on
foot, the Maior hauing a Banner of Saint Paul in
his hands, which Banner shall be of vermaile, with
an Image of Saint Paul of gold, with feet, head, and
handes of silver; with a sword of silver in the hand of
the said Image: and when the said Robert shall see him
come forth with such a banner, hee shall alight from
his horse, and salute the Maior as his fellow and
companion, and shall say, Sir Maior I am come to
doe my seruice which I owe vnto the Citty: and
they shall say, we giue to you as to our Bannerer, in
fee, this Banner of this towne, to beare and gouerne
to the honour and profit of this Citty to your pow-
er. And the said Robert and his heires shall receiue
the said Banner in his hands. and goe on foot out of
the

the gate or doze, with the Banner in his hands, and the Maior and Sheriffes shall follow him to the doze, and present vnto him twenty pound sterling in money, and deliuer it to his Chamberlaine for his expences that day: Also a horse worth twenty pounds, with a Saddle with the Armes of the said Robert on it engrauen, the saddle shall bee covered with Glendall, and his Armes also embzothered. And the said Robert shall mount vpon the said horse, with the Banner in his hand, and when he is vp, he shall say to the Maior, that he cause a Marshall to be chosen for the host, one of the Citty; and when the Marshall is chosen, the said Robert shall commaund the Maior that he assemble the Burgeses, and Commoners of the Citty, and they shall all goe vnder the Banner of Saint Paul; and the said Robert shall bere it himself vnto A'gate: being com there, the said Robert and the Maior shall deliuer it ouer to whom they shall thinke good, and if they haue cause to goe forth, Robert shall cause them to meet at the Priory of the Trinity: and the said Robert shall chose two fourth of euery ward, the most sage persons, to foresee that the Citty bee safely kept, if the Host of London bee besieged any towne, or Castle. If the siege continue long, as a whole yee, he is to receiue for euery siege of the Comminalty of London five pounds for his trauaile and no more.

His Rights in time of Peace.

The said Robert hath a Sokne in the Citty, that is a wall in the Channoury of Saint Paul, as a man goeth downe the street, before the brame of S. Paul, vnto the Thames, and so to the side of the mill which is in the water, which commeth downe from Fleet bridge, and goeth so by London wall, betwixt the

the Fryers Preachers, and Ludgate, and so returning backe to the house of the said Fryers, vntill the said comen of the wall of the said Channoury of S. Paul that is, all the parish of Saint Andrew, which is in the gift of his Ancestors, by the said signior-ty and so the said Robert hath Appendant to the said Sokue, all these things here vnder written, videlicet.

That hee ought to haue Sokeman, and to place what Sokeman he will, so that he be of Sokemanrie.

And if any of the Sokemanry bee impleaded in the Guild Hall of any thing which toucheth not the body of the Maior for the time being, or that toucheth not the body of no Sheriffe; it is lawfull for the Sokeman of the said Robert Fitzwalter, to demand a Court of the said Fitzwalter; and the Maior, and Cittizens ought to graunt him to haue his Court, and in that Court, hee ought to bring his Judgement, as it is assented, and giuen in the Guild Hall.

If any therefore be taken in his Sokne he ought to haue his Stockes, and his imprisonment in his Sokne, and hee shall bee brought from thence to the Guild Hall before the Maior, and there they shall prouide him his iudgement, such as ought to bee giuen him, but his iudgement shall not bee published, vntill he come into the Court of the said Robert, and in his Fraunchise, And the Judgement shall bee such.

If he hath deserued death by treason, then to bee tyed to a pillar, which standeth in the Thames at Wood wharfe, where Boates are fastened, two eb- bings, and two flowings of the water. And if hee be condemned for a common thiefe, he ought to bee led to the Elmes, & there suffer his iudgement, as o- ther common thienes.

And thus the said Robert, and his heires haue
 agrent honour, which he holdeth for a great Fran-
 cheise within the Citty, that the Maior and the Cit-
 izens are bound to doe him of right; that is to say,
 when the Maior will hold a great Councell, he ought
 to call the said Robert and his heires to be with him
 in Councell, and of Councell with the Citty. And
 he ought to be swozne to be of Councell to the Citty,
 against all people, saving the King, and his heires.
 And when hee cometh to the Hastings in Guild
 Hall, the Maior, or his Linetenant ought to rise a-
 gainst him, and set him downe neere vnto him, and
 so long as he is in Guild Hall, all the iudgements
 ought to be giuen by his mouth, according to the re-
 cord of the Records of the same Guild Hal. And so ma-
 ny wayes as come so long as he is there, hee ought
 to giue them to the Baylines of the Citty, or to whome
 he will, by the Councell of the Maior for the time be

Now this custome toke beginning, or how it en-
 ded, I haue not yet read, yet I thought good to re-
 peat it, for that it belonged to his Castle, which ho-
 nours were againe restored and possessed by his
 successors. For I reade that in Anno Dom. 1303.
 vpon Saint Gregories day, or the twelue of March
 the thirty one yeer of off King Edward, before Iohn
 Le-Bloud then Maior, William de Leyr, Thomas
 Romain, William de Bleton, Walter de Finchings-
 field, Henry de Glocester, Salamon de Coetellier,
 Iohn de Wengraue, Iohn Darments, Hugh Pourt, &
 Simon de Paris, the Sheriffes, & Aldermen of Lon-
 don, and before six men euery ward of London, Ro-
 bert Fitzwalter came, and acknowledged seruice,
 and sware vpon the Euangelist to be true to the Cit-
 ty, and that he would uphold and mainfain them to
 his power, and that he shall keepe the counsell of the
 said Citty of London.

The King notwithstanding these compositions, and agréments with his Barons, when all was thought to have been amended, did yet againe urge his Nobles & Barons to rise in Arms against him. Insomuch as they sent for Lewis the French Kings sonne, promising to deliver the Crowne and Kingdome unto him. Of those which sent for him, I have read the chiefest were Robert Fitzwalter, and Fulke Fitzwarrine, which two men hee most had wronged and endamaged, the one for his daughters death: the other for taking from him his Lordship of Whittington in Shropshire, and giving it away to the Prince of Wales, then called Lewis. Also Roger Bigot, and many others, who after King Iohn his death, compounded with the French Kings sonne, and sent him away out of England, as one that without their aide could not have what hee desired.

Of the Bacon at *Dunmow* Pryory.

Robert Fitzwalter lived long after this belated of King Henry, the sonne of King Iohn, as also of all the Realme: He betooke himselfe at his latter time to prayer, gave great and bountifull almes to the poore, kept great hospitallity, and reedified the decayed Pryory of Dunmow, which one Iuga, a most devout and religious woman (in her kinde) being his Ancestress, had builded. In which Pryory arose a custome, began, and instituted eyther by him, or some of his successors, which is verified by a common proverbe or saying, videl. That hee which repents him not of his marriage in a yeere and a day eyther sleeping, or waking, may lawfully goe to Dunmowe, and fetch a Gammon of Bacon.

It is most assured that such a custome there was,

and that this Bacon was deliue red with such solemnity, and triumph, as they of the Wyorle, and the Townesmen could make. I haue enquired of the manner of it, and can learne no moze, but that it continued vntill the dissolution of the house, as also all the Abbeyes.

That the party of Pilgrim for Bacon, was to take his oath before the Prioze, the Couent, and the whole town, humbly acknowledging in the Church-yard, vpon two hard pointed stones: which stones som say are yet to bee seene in the Prioze Church-yard. His oath was ministred with such long proces, and such solempne singing ouer him, as doubtles must make his pilgrimage, as I may terme it, painfull: after he was taken vp, vpon mens shoulders, and carried,

First, about the Prioze Church-yard, and after through the towne, with all the Fryers and bzytheren, and all the townes folke, young, and old, following him with shouts and acclamations, with his Bacon borne before him, and in such manner (as I haue heard) he was sent home with his Bacon: of which, I finde, some had a gammon, and others had a fléke, or flych. For pzoofe wherof, I haue from out the Records of the house, found the names of thre severall persons, that at severall times had it.

*Memorandum quod quidam Stevanus Samuel
ell de Aston parua, in Com. Essex, &c.*

Which beeing in Lattin entred into the booke, which belongeth to the Powle, I haue thus Engli shed.

Be it remembred, that one Stephen Samuel of little Aston in the County of Essex husbandman, came to the Prioze of Dunmow, on our Lady day in Lent

Lent, in the seventh yere of King Edward the fourth, and required a Gammon of Bacon, and was swozne before Roger Rulcor then Wyre, and the Couent of this place, as also before a multitude of other neighbours: And there was deliuered vnto him a Gammon of Bacon.

Also, We it remembred that one Richard Wright of Badeourgh, neere the Cittie of Norwich, in the County of Norfolke, came and required of the Bacon of Dunmow, namely, the seventeenth day of Aprill, in the twenty thre yere of the raigne of Henry the sixth, and according to the forme of the Charter was swozne before John Cannon, Wyre of this place, and the couent, and many other neighbours, And there was deliuered vnto the said Richard, one flech of Bacon.

Againe, Memorandum, that in the yere of our Lord 1510. Thomas Le Fuller of Coggeshall, in the County of Essex, came to the Wyre of Dunmowe, and required to haue som of the Bacon of Dunmow, and on the eighth day of September being Sunday, in the second yere of King Henry the eighth, he was according to the forme of the Charter swozne before John Taylor, then Wyre of the house, and the Couent: as also before a multitude of neighbours, and there was deliuered to the said Thomas a Gammon of Bacon.

Heereby appeareth that it was giuen according to a Charter, or donation, giuen by some conceipted Benefactor to the house: and it is not to be doubted but that at such a time, the bordering Townes and Villages, would resort, and bee partakers of their pastime: and laugh to scoone the poore mans paines.

The order of the Oath.

YOU shall sweare by custome of confession,
If euer you made nuptiall transgression:
Be you eyther married man or wife,
By house, hould brawles, or contentious strife,
Or otherwise in bed, or at boord,
Offend each other in deede, or word;
Or since the parish clarke said Amen,
You wisht your selues vnmarried agen:
Or in a twelue moneths time and a day,
Repented not in thought any way:
But continued true, and iust in desire,
As when you ioind hands in the holy quire.
If to these condicions without all feare,
Of your owne accord, you will freely sweare,
A whole Gammon of Bacon you shall receiue,
And beare it hence with loue and good leaue.
For this is our custome a *Dumme* well knowne;
Though the pleasure be ours, the Bacons your own.

The manner of the murder of Robert Hall
in the Abbey of Westminster at the
High Alter.

The most renowned, valient, and victorious King Edward the third, making claime to the Kingdome and Crowne of France, as his proper right and inheritance lawfully descended vnto him, by right and title of the Queene his mother, made such hot and sharpe wars vpon the then liuing King of France: That being seconded by his thrice valient and worthy sonnes, especially his eldest, surnamed the blacke Prince, he brake the French into such a narrow strait and exigent, as that they feared the vtter conquest and ouerthrow of their Kingdome and State.

Neuer was King more fortunate or happy in his children, nor neuer did age breed more valient capitaines, and chiefe commanders then this, the chiefe whereof, besides the King, and his valient sonnes and the Nobility, were Robert Knols, Hugh Cauerley, of Cheshire, Croker of Oxfordshire, Shandoys, &c. Besides Iohn Hawkewood, (neuer to be forgotten) who after the end of these warres in France, tooke with him his companies both horse and foot, which were at his command, And in Italy acted wonders, was most highly esteemed and honoured, of whose adventures and worthy deedes, the Histories of Italy make large report, who at last there died, and in Padua (as I remember hath a most worthy monument erected for him: of these capitaines Hawkewood among the Italians was called Io. Acuth.

These capitaines as also many others (according to the vse of conquerors) had giuen vnto them lands, offices, and preferments, as keeping of Castles, Cities, Townes, and countries, which in the behalfe and right of King Edward, they with great and stout
refo.

resolution held and maintained, in despite of all the French, or any power they could make: who being wearied and outworn with the terror of these warres, (their estate still waxing worse and worse) solicited the Pope, and all the Princes of Christendome, to be a meanes unto King Edward of their peace, which was at last graunted, and the English forces abated and withdrawn: But the chiefeſt could not so easily be withdrawn from such places, as with their swords they had conquered: nor from those honours and preferments, which with expence of their blood, were in reward of their valour and service giuen unto them, untill occasion presented a fit meanes of policy, wherein the French excēd the English (as Comineus witnesseth) as in field or battaile the English excēd the French.

It happened at the same very time, that Peter the lawfull King of Castile, or Spaine, was expelled his kingdom by his bastard brother Henry, and in the yēre 1380. came to Burdeaux to the blacke Prince, craving aid and succor against his usurping brother. This matter was furthered by the French, who were most desirous of his absence, well knowing that the English Captaines and souldiers would follow him as the flowes of Chivalry: and the honour and glory of his time.

The Prince accepted of Peters request, and forthwith obtained licence of his Father, to transport or rather lead his Army into Spaine: where in a maine battaile fought at Nazers, Henry the Bastard was defeated, overcome, his Army dispersed, and 6000. slaine, and 200. taken prisoners, amongst which the Earle of Deu and Bertrand Clakyn, were most remarkable, and men of speciall note. By this means King Peter was restored, whose daughter and heire Iohn of Gaunt third son of King Edward, and brother

ther to the blacke Prince married, and in her right intituled and called himselfe King of Castile, Leon, and Aragon, which now is called Spaine : of which matter the Chronicles make large report, and therefore needlesse to be repeated and new written : but to our purpose.

Amongst these prisoners the Earle of Dene, being (as I said) the most remarkeable and of chiefeest note albeit he was challenged by sundry men, whereof some were of the Nobility : yet this iust and wise Prince, who neuer used to suffer vertue and valour unrewarded, nor would not for either fauour or feare doe a meane and priuate souldier any wrong, adiudged the said Earle to be the lawfull prisoner of two valiant Esquires, Souldiers, and men of worth and reputation, named Robert Hall and Iohn Shakerley, and thereof they obtained his Charter against all others that pretended claime or interest in him.

The Earle not willing to go with them into England, made request to be ransomed, which was graunted vnto him, and the sum agreed vpon, which he affirmed hee was not able presently to pay : For that those warres had so impouerished both himself, and his countrey, and people that all their mony & goods were wasted and consumed : notwithstanding hee would giue vnto them his eldest sonne and heire as a pledge, and hostage of the performance of such payment as hee promised, and they were contented to accept of. So remained he still in Spaine, and the youth who (as I can gather) was not then aboue 8. or nine yeeres of age came with these two Esquires into England, and in short space he learned the ready pronouncing of the English tongue or language ; and likewise prospered in all vertue and good qualities, that he was so well beloued of his said Guardians or masters, as if he had bene their owne child : Hee on

the other part behaved himselfe honestly, lovingly, and most kindly towards them, with such faith and fidelity in their manifold troubles, which for his cause they sustained as was most admirable, and hereafter shall be declared. His unkind Father neither regarding his promise, his oath, nor his bonds; nor having any care or father-like affection to his ingaged sonne, neuer sent the ransom, nor any part thereof, but most unnaturally left him in their hands, at the will of his two masters, to here I will leaue him, and returne to King Edward,

The black Prince the comfort of his Father, and joy of England, shortly after this, departed this life, The good King his Father not able to sustaine the burthen of so great sorrow, liued not long after, but left the son of Prince Edward his Nephew to succeed him in his Kingdomes and Crownes, by the name of King Richard the second. In which space, King Peter of Spaine was also slaine by his brother, and the bastard Henry again, repossessed the Crown, and dignity.

John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster, Earle of Darby, &c. after the death of King Peter, called himselfe (in right of Beatrix his wife) King of Castile, Leon, & Aragon, and obtained licence of the King to transport an Army at his owne proper charge into Spain for the recovery of his Kingdome. And for that purpose made great and long provision. And knowing well that the Earle of Marne was in the hands of Hall, and Shakerley, solicited them to haue him: but they utterly refused to part with him, without ready payment of the money for his ransom: whereupon he besought the King to deale with them on his behalf. The king pretending y^e his purpose was to make a marriage betweene the said Earle: and his sister, a gallant Lady, and rich widow, late wife to Peter,

Peter Corney: But this deuise, no2 nothing else prouailed to obaine the Dukes purpose: so that they were both comitted to the Tower of London, from whence (I know not by what meanes) they escaped: and after for their further safety, they betooke themselves to the Sanctuary at Westminster, & enrolled themselves and their goods in the protection and priuiledge of that place: which was at that time so strong and so reuerend, as it was not thought that any man how cruell, or tyrannous so ever durst once infringe, violate, or breake it.

The Duke hauing staid so long in making provision for his iorney, that diuers of his chieffest Followers grew weary of their charges and expences, and knowing that the matter of this Carle bred his discontent, and was a speciall let and hinderance to his further proceedings, determined to set aside all religion and conscience, and make breach of the sanctuary, he wholly soeuer, and take from them their prisoner, or bring them back to the Tower: whereupon fifty or sixty chosen men were armed, and secretly placed to break into the Abbey at service time and if no persuasions could preuaile, then with violence to set upon them. The chieffest of these were Raph de Ferres, the Lord Latimer, Alan Buxhull, and others, who at that time of Masse gat into the Church, and by craft drew Shakerley forth of the libertyes of the Sanctuary, by a posterne, or small doore, leading to the Ducens bridge through the old Pallace. But as for Hall when they saw they could not intreat nor perswade him, they began to bend their weapons toward him: but hee hauing a short sword drew it, and ballantly defended their assaults, running about the Abbey, yet found no rescue, or helpe, but a company of Monkes and Priests, naked as it were, and unarmed, who cryed to God for

vengeance of this horrible sacriledge. I haue been shewed a great notch which remains in a marble pillar. reported to bee made with a blow which one of them strook at him, and yet mist him, Also the stones where he was sitte deadly wounded, retaine yet (as is said) his blood, whether it be so or bee the naturall colour of the stone, let Philosophers dispute, hee feeling himselfe so wounded, ran vp to the high Altar, where the two Priests stood amazed at this deathfull accident. One of the Lay brethren a seruant of the house, opposing himselfe for rescue was slaine, as also Hall himselfe. The murderers made away and fled.

This being perfozmed, and they not hving the nearer for their purpose of the Earle of Deane, it followed that the Church was suspended, the diuine seruices ceased: the Quiristers, Chorists, bells, and Organs became mute: the Church doores were dammed and inured vp with thornes and bushes, at least sixty loads (as I haue read) And the Authoꝝ and doers thereof cursed with Bell, Booke, and Candle: for they were all well knowne, this was not onely don in London, but in euery Cathedrall Church and parish Church throughout all England and Wales. This severe censure of the Church, this curse or ban was denounced: neyther did the Duke himselfe escape it, although he saine would haue excused it, as neither knowing of it, nor consenting to it: but hee preuailed not, and was also punished by this heauy curse. This continued for the space of certaine weekes, in which time the King so wrought with the Duke, that hee fell to composition with Shakerley: who for the some of five hundred markes of present money, and a hundred markes by the yeere, was contented to part with his prisoner. Also that the Duke at his owne charges should build a Chantry,

and

and find five priests sooner to sing for the soule of Robert Hall. The money being paid, and security put in for performance of the rest, the Church, the Bells and Church ornaments, were new hallowed, the services againe restored: But that which was most to be admired, was, that when the prisoner, or Carle was demanded, he deliuered his Page, who they all knew in all his troubles had most faithfully serued him and his companion. All sorts of people wondering at the great fidelity of this stranger, who albeit hee well knew that hee was sought for his perferment, that his Father was dead: yet detesting the unkindnesse of his father and friends, chose rather to be partaker of his masters troubles, than to falsifie the faith, oath, and promise which he had made vnto them. A most rare and memorable example.

Hall lyeth buried in the Abbey at Westminster, not far from Chansers Tombe, vnder a faire monument of a flat Marble Stone, with his image of brasse in his armour: and about the same certaine verses in Lattin, which (though much defaced with treading, and nere woone out, may be found in a booke called the Remaines of a greater Worke. set forth by Mr. Camden, al. Clareceaulx King at Armes.

The Duke of Lancaster with a great Power went into Spaine, where after sundry victories, and variable fortunes, a great sicknesse attached his people: by meanes whereof his successe was not answerable to his expectation, nor the height of his minde, whereby he yielded to a composition with Henry the King, and receiued of him eight Charriots, laden with Gold and Siluer: and a yeerely tribute of a thousand Markes: with these conditions he departed out of Spaine, and returned into England: dyed, and lyeth buried in Paules, with his wife and Daughter of King Peter, whose stile and titles of honour

Honour and Dignity, were written and set vpp
by it, at the cost and charges of one master Ro-
bert Hare, late one of the Councell to
Queene Mary, and late Treasurer,
and wyter of the Arche-
quer Rolles.

FINIS.
